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FLOOR DEBATE

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different product. This has added protein and it's just not quite the same product.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Is soybean meal sold as animal feed?

SENATOR DIERKS: It is.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Would this gluten meal that results from...as a by-product of producing ethanol, be so cheaper than soybean meal?

SENATOR DIERKS: I don't know, but I think probably it could be. I just don't know what that answer is, Ernie.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Thank you, Senator Dierks. Members of the Legislature, this is a complex issue, but we're trying to put money in the pockets of investors who are dealing with an activity that has failed repeatedly. There was a plant in Sutherland. Some fast-steppers had to try to take over that plant because Governor Orr had said, if she won re-election, it would be funded. When she didn't win, then that went out the window. So these hustlers got together and got the plant going. It failed. And I believe another group may have taken it over, which would be strike two. They failed and it went into bankruptcy. And I think some company that may have had a net value...an actual value of \$10 bought it from the federal government out of bankruptcy, and now we're being asked to give something that has failed repeatedly some more money so that it can run. And I want you all to listen to what those who speak for agriculture or purport to speak for agriculture are saying. I'm not challenging their motives, I'm challenging whether they've looked at the issue as much as this city slicker has looked at it. If you have the vast majority of farmers in this state who are producing field crops not selling their product for ethanol production, but the majority of it is going for animal feed, yet the by-product of ethanol...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...production, which tax money, including the farmers if they pay taxes, will subsidize, that by-product will